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JASON EDWARD THOMAS CARDIFF

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JASON EDWARD THOMAS
CARDIFF,
Defendant.

Case No. 5:23-cr-00021-JGB

**DECLARATION OF STEPHEN G.
LARSON IN SUPPORT OF JASON
CARDIFF'S *EX PARTE*
APPLICATION FOR AN ORDER
TRANSFERRING CASE TO THE
HONORABLE DOLLY M. GEE**

[Filed concurrently with Ex Parte Application; Request for Judicial Notice; and [Proposed] Order]

DECLARATION OF STEPHEN G. LARSON

I, Stephen G. Larson, declare as follows:

3 1. I am a partner with Larson LLP, attorneys of record for Jason Edward
4 Thomas Cardiff in this matter. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth
5 herein and, if called as a witness, I could and would testify competently thereto.

6 2. I make this declaration in support of Mr. Cardiff's *Ex Parte* Application
7 for an Order Transferring Case to the Honorable Dolly M. Gee.

8 3. On December 14, 2023, I contacted counsel for the government to
9 request the government's position on transferring this matter to Judge Gee.

10 Assistant U.S. Attorney Valerie Makarewicz advised that the government was still
11 formulating its position.

12 4. On December 21, 2023, my colleague, Jonathan D. Gershon, called Ms.
13 Makarewicz and left a voicemail informing her of Mr. Cardiff's intention to file an
14 *Ex Parte* Application to Transfer on December 22, 2023 and requesting that she
15 provide an update on the government's position regarding Mr. Cardiff's
16 Application.

17 5. On December 22, 2023, Mr. Gershon again called Ms. Makarewicz and
18 left a voicemail seeking the government's position. Ms. Makarewicz responded by
19 email that the government opposes Mr. Cardiff's request to transfer this case to the
20 Honorable Dolly M. Gee.

22 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of
23 America that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

25 || Executed on this 22nd day of December, 2023, at Los Angeles, California.

/s/ Stephen G. Larson
Stephen G. Larson